

By: Hopson

H.R. No. 97

Substitute the following for H.R. No. 97:

By: Swinford

C.S.H.R. No. 97

#### R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Immigration laws exist to provide a process for  
2 legal entry into this country and to protect our national security;  
3 clearly, these laws are ineffective in achieving those purposes  
4 without proper enforcement; and

5           WHEREAS, A country that does not know the identity of those  
6 entering or leaving the country is inviting criminals and  
7 terrorists to live anonymously within its borders; and

8           WHEREAS, The message from Americans is loud and clear: our  
9 first priority must be securing our borders and enforcing current  
10 immigration laws; only then should we determine what changes, if  
11 any, are needed to our immigration policy; and

12           WHEREAS, Failure to adequately enforce immigration laws  
13 exacts a high price on local taxpayers; Texas prisons currently  
14 house approximately 10,000 illegal immigrants who have been  
15 convicted of crimes, costing valuable taxpayer dollars; and

16           WHEREAS, Similarly, local property taxes increase when  
17 schools must educate the children of illegal immigrants; this, too,  
18 could be prevented by enforcement of current immigration laws; and

19           WHEREAS, Health care is another area affected by lax  
20 enforcement of immigration laws; indigent illegal immigrants who  
21 use local hospital emergency rooms for treatment increase the cost  
22 of health care for all Americans; and

23           WHEREAS, Making the enforcement of current immigration laws a  
24 priority would enhance national security, fulfill the will of the

1 American people, and save local taxpayers billions of dollars; now,  
2 therefore, be it

3           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
4 Legislature hereby express its support for the enforcement of  
5 current immigration laws.